

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~

COUNTRY East Germany REPORT NO.

TOPIC General Military Information 25X1 25X1

EVALUATION see below PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT 25X1 25X1

DATE OBTAINED PREPARED 11 March 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

25X1

SOURCE

25X1

25X1

1. On 20 February 1953, about 75 percent of the windows of the Flak Kaserne and about 50 percent of the windows of the Neue Kaserne, east of Schubertstrasse, Gotha, were lighted at dusk. At about 4 p.m. on 13 February, about 120 soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets and about 20 trucks, were entrained at the Gotha railroad station.¹ 25X1
2. On 20 February, the barracks installation west of Leipzigerstrasse, Altenburg, was occupied by about 500 soldiers and the barracks installation east of Leipzigerstrasse was occupied by about 150 soldiers.² 25X1
3. On 25 February, 9 to 12 T-34/85 tanks, 5 to 6 trucks and jeep were entrained in Luebben. On 25 February, the bulk of the units stationed in Luebben were absent from the post. Truck and sedan were seen en route to the installation. On 26 February, the bulk of the units stationed in Spremberg were absent from the post. Motor vehicles were seen en route to the barracks installation.³ 25X1
4. At 11:30 a.m. on 26 February, 12 T-34/85 tanks including Nos 48 and 67; and 2 trucks, were unloaded at the Baruth railroad station. At 11:45 a.m., a troop train carrying 12 T-34/85 tanks and 2 trucks was seen at the Kladorf railroad station, with the engine headed toward Baruth. At 1:10 p.m., a troop train carrying 6 boxcarloads of soldiers and equipment, about 18 T-34/85 tanks, 4 T-34 chassis, about 10 trucks and 3 jeeps was seen arriving at the Dobrilug railroad station, coming from the direction of Finsterwalde.³ 25X1

1. Comment. According to previous reports, the elements of the 57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div stationed in Gotha had been transferred to the Zeitz area in five shipments on 13 February and had returned to their post on 17 and 18 February on 5 trains from the Lossa area. 25X1

2. Comment. Elements of the 43d Gds Army Arty Brig, after a 3-day stay at Ohrdruf, returned to the barracks installation west of Leipziger Strasse, Altenburg, on 14 February, and elements of the 38th Army AT Arty Brig, after joint exercises with units of the XXIX Gds Mtz Rifle Corps in the Lossa-Zeitz area, returned to their barracks installation east of Leipziger Strasse on 17 February. 25X1

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

346

SECRET, [REDACTED]

25X1

- 2 -

[REDACTED] 25X1

However, elements of the two brigades must have left Altenburg on 18 or 19 February, as the two barracks installations were only lightly occupied on the day of observation.

- 25X1 3. [REDACTED] Comment. The observations by the two sources supplement each other. As, on 24 and 25 February, two troop trains went from Rathenow to Luebbenau, it had previously been assumed that, in late February, exercises of units of the Third Gds Mecz Army, especially the 9th Mecz Div, would be held in the area northwest of Cottbus. [REDACTED] This assumption is confirmed by the observation that the units of the 9th Mecz Div permanently stationed in Luebben and Spremberg had been absent and that, at 11:30 a.m. on 26 February, a tank unit of this division had been unloaded in Baruth. The two tank shipments seen at the Kladorf and Dobrilug railroad stations probably involved other tank units of this division.
- 25X1 [REDACTED]

SECRET, [REDACTED]

25X1